

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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FOL RPT BANGUI 1220 ACTION SECSTATE INFO PARIS JUN 30

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGUI 1220

DEPARTMENT PASS OTHER AFRICAN EMBASSIES AS APPROPRIATE

E.9. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PINS, CT

SUBJ: DIPLOMATS PROHIBITED FROM RECEIVING "HOSTILE? PERIODICALS

REF: BANGUI 1186, AUGUST 28, 1975

1. THE EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED A DIPLOMATIC NOTE TRANSMITTING DECREE NO. 76/391 SIGNED JUNE 16 BY PRESIDENT BOKASSA. THE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH FORBIDS QTE ALL DIPLOMATIC, CONSULAR AND LIKE REPRESENTATIVES FROM ADMITTING OR ALLOWING TO BE ADMITTED INTO THE CAR UNQTE THE FOLLOWING PERIODICALS QTE JEUNE AFRIQUE, AFRIQUE-ASIE, MINUTE, LE CRAPOUILLOT AND ALL OTHER NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS HOSTILE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNQTE.

2. ARTICLE TWO PRESCRIBES THAT ANY PERSON INVOLVED IN AN INFRACTION OF THIS DECREE WILL BE DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA AND REQUIRED TO LEAVE THE TERRITORY OF THE
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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

3. COMMENT:

BOKASSA'S IRE WAS APPARENTLY RAISED BY ARTICLE IN RECENT ISSUE OF JEUNE AFRIQUE DESCRIBING VARIOUS ECONOMIC WOES OF CAR AND INADEQUACY OF PRESIDENT'S ILL-CONCEIVED SOLUTIONS. THIS IS THE FIRST PROHIBITION PLACED ON JEUNE AFRIQUE AND LE CRAPOUILLET SINCE BOKASSA LIFTED EARLIER BAN ON AUGUST 22, 1975 AND ANNOUNCED HE WAS RETURNING TO AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE ITS ASSETS SEIZED IN MAY 1974. LATEST BAN IS CURIOUSLY RESTRICTED TO DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICIALS. PRACTICAL EFFECT HOWEVER IS DISAPPEARANCE OF THESE PERIODICALS FROM USUAL PUBLIC OUTLETS. WE HAVE NONETHELESS TAKEN MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT OUR COPIES OF JEUNE AFRIQUE ARE HANDLED AS LOU AND DISTRIBUTED ONLY IN RESTRICTED AREA OF THE EMBASSY. OFFICIAL PERSONNEL TRAVELING TO THE CAR FROM PARIS OR ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO BRING ANY OF THESE JOURNALS WITH THEM WHEN ENTERING THE CAR. QUANTON

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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